THE

Quacks Academy;

OR

The Dunce's Directory.

A New Art to croſs the Old Proverb, and make a Man FOOL and PHYSICIAN both at a time.

Diſcovering the ſeveral Methods whereby ſo many Ignorant Pretenders obtain Repute and Practice.

—— *Cur Ludere nobis*
Non Liceat Licuit cum Jugulare tibi. Mart.

With Allowance.

LONDON,

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MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

THE Quacks Academy, OR THE DUNCE'S DIRECTORY.

BEfore we enter upon the Subject Matter of this Sheet, we muſt declare that we do except out of our Deſign, all thoſe Learned and Worthy Perſons, whoſe Experience and Labour in the Art of *Medicine*, may any way contribute to the common good of Mankind; intending only to reflect on thoſe Illeterate Pretenders to Phyſick, whoſe Practices are as well ſhameful as dangerous to the place they live in; of which later ſort we are about to ſpeak.

Having obſerv'd the prodigious *Succeſs* of modern *Quackery*, and that the Practice of it is lately become a *laſt ſhift*, more common and thriving too, than ſelling of *Ale*, or ſetting up a *Coffee-Houſe*. And finding ſtill abundance of *indigent idle* People, that could never make their untoward *Handicrafts* fadge to purpoſe, who would be glad to exchange them for ſo gentee and *advantageous* an Imploy, had they but the ſecret *Knack* whereby other Bankrupts with ſmall pains and leſs parts, have in an inſtant raiſed themſelves from Beggary, to competent Eſtates. Out of our great reſpect to ſuch hearty well-willers, to ſo ſecure and gainful a Science; we have thought fit to unfold the whole *Myſtery*; as 'tis this day practiced with ſo much Profit and Applauſe: Draw near then with attention, all you decayed *Ragamuffins* of the Town; you by whoſe Dulneſs, n

Mechanick Myſtery but ſcorns to be maſter'd, whom neither *Sea* nor *Gibbet* will accept; we'll put you in a way of Feeding your ſelves and the Worms too: *Honeſt* no doubt, becauſe *common* and *ſafe*, for why, your miſcariages ſhall never be heard for the *Dinn* of Knells you ſhall occaſion, —— But to deliver our Documents in order:

Firſt, To paſs for currant, you have no more to do but to call your ſelves Doctors; *Pliny* hath affirm'd it before: And though I neither expect nor deſire you ſhould underſtand *Latin*, yet becauſe a Scrap may do you a kindneſs, one time or other to *ſwagger* with; I'll give it you in his own Language: *Hac ſola Artium, evenit quod cuilibet ſe Medicum dicenti facile credatur, Cum ſit periculum in nullo Mendacio Majus.* In this Art alone it comes to paſs, That any one but profeſſing himſelf a Phyſician, is preſently believed; though in no caſe the belief of a lie be more dangerous. I have Engliſht this for the benefit of thoſe that do nor underſtand Latin; and I have no quarrel at all againſt thoſe that do.

However, In the Second place to ſupport this Title; there are ſeveral things very convenient: of which ſome are External *Accontrements*, others Internal *Qualifications*.

Your outward Requiſites, are a decent *Black Suit*, and (if your Credit will ſtretch ſo far in *Long-lane*) a *Pluſh Jacket*; not a pin the worſe though Thred-bare as a Taylors Cloak; it ſhows the more reverend Antiquity.

Secondly, Like *Mercury*, you muſt always carry a *Caduceus* or Conjuring Japan in your Hand, Capt with a Civet Box; with which you muſt walk with Spaniſh Gravity, as in deep Contemplation upon an Arbitrament between Life and Death.

Thirdly, A convenient Lodging, not forgetting a *Hatch* at the Door: A Chamber hung either with Dutch Pictures, or Looking-Glaſſes, *bee-litter'd* with Urinals, or empty Gallipots, and Vials filled with Tap-droppings, or Fair Water, colour'd with *Saunders*: Any Sexton will furniſh your Window with

with a *Skull*, in hope of your Cuſtom; over which hang up the *Skeleton* of a Monkey, to proclaim your Skill in *Anatomy*.

Fourthly, Let your *Table* be never without ſome old muſty *Greek* or *Arabick* Author, and the 4th Book of *Cornelius Agrippa*'s *Occult Philoſophy*, wide open, to amuſe Spectators; with half a dozen of *Guilt Shillings*, as ſo many Guinneys received that morning for *Fees*.

Fifthly, Fail not to oblige neighbouring Ale-houſes, to recommend you to *Inquirers*; and hold Correſpondence with all the *Nurſes* and *Midwives* near you, to applaud your Skill at Goſſippings.

Now to your neceſſary Qualifications, They are in general Two, *Viz. Loquacity* or Talkativeneſs, and *Impudence*.

As for the Firſt, 'Tis a mighty *ſetter-off* amongſt the Vulgar: be ſure therefore you learn to pronounce *Oppilation* and *Obſtruction* of the Spleen, and *Schirrhus* of the Liver, with a full Mouth; at leaſt ſpeak hard words, though never ſo wretchedly *miſapply'd*, and obſcure common ordinary things in Terms of Art (for all the uſe you are to make of ſuch Terms, is the ſame Juglers do of *Hictius Doctius* and *Preſto*; to amuſe Peoples Brains whilſt you Pick their Pockets) if you can but get ſo far as to call the Fit of an Ague, a *Paroxyſme*, Fits of the Mother *Hyſterical* Paſſions: Thunder out *Sympathetical*, and *Authipetichl* Cures: Prate of the *Mechaniſme of Nature*; though you know no more on't than a Plow-man does of Clock-work: Tell um of appeaſing the *Irritated Archeical Microcoſmical Monarch*; increaſing the *Radical* Moiſture; and relieving all the Powers, *Vital*, *Natural*, and *Animal*: The admiring Patient ſhall certainly cry you up for a great Schollard; provided always your Noneſenſe be *fluent*, and mixt with a diſparagement of the *Colledge*, Graduated Doctors, and Book-learned Phyſicians: againſt whom you muſt ever bring in your high and mighty word *Experience*.

But ſince every Man is not endued with the gift of *Tatling*,

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and that 'tis fit you ſhould learn like a Dutch-man, to *Sail* with every Wind: If niggardly Nature, or more penurious Education, have not afforded you a Tongue *well hung*; make a Vertue of neceſſity: Look *Grave* and Big, decline all Diſcourſe, eſpecially if Ingenious Men be by: Tell them *Diſeaſes* are not to be frighted away with words; that you do not come to *Talk* but to *Cure*, &c. This will at once conceal your Ignorance from the Judicious, and increaſe your eſteem for a notable reſerv'd *paty* Fellow with others: If any ask the cauſe of their Diſtempers, or reaſon of your Preſcriptions, ſatisfie them both by producing a Liſt of your *mighty Cures*; wherein if one half be *falſe* and the other *hired*; there is no geeat danger: For he muſt be a ſtrange inquiſitive Infidel, that will not rather believe them, than give himſelf the trouble of diſproving them —— Which brings me to the ſecond property, *Viz.*

A convenient Audacity, There is nothiug more neceſſary, nothing more advantagious. Make People believe that no Pitcht-Field ever *ſlew* or *wounded* half ſo many as you have *recover'd*: That you have made Death retreat, where Nature was more fiercely beleaguer'd than ever *Stetin* was, and diſappointed him of more *Bits* than Civil or Foreign Wars have furniſht him with theſe Forty years: That you have even *Becon'd* Souls back again, that have been ſome Leagues onwards their Journey from their Bodies: Boaſt the wonders you have done at *Leiden* and *Hamburgh*, the *Lazzaretto*, at *Venice*, and the *Maiſon de Dieu* at *Paris*: That your *Cloſets* are *Immortality-Offices*, and that you can lett *Leaſes of Lives* of a larger Date than *Popiſh Indulgences*: Pretend to the Cure of *all Diſeaſes*, eſpecially ſuch as are *Incurable*; and to know which are moſt *in Seaſon*, conſult the Bills of Mortality; and next Week *vary* your Bill accordingly.

In particular, ſince the whole Art of Phyſick conſiſts in the Diagnoſticks, Prognoſticks, and Therapeuticks; For the firſt Two you muſt either pretend to be *Waterologers*, which

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is more abſtruſe and modiſh) *Aſs-trologers*, *Piſs-propheis*, or *Starr-Wizards*; either way will do well enough, and to ſpeak truth, are much of a *Certainty*: In *both* there is neceſſary a *Previous pumping*, by apt and wary *Queſtions*, and their *Anſwers* handſomely turned into other words, will extreamly gratifie the *Patient* or *Querent*. If you practiſe by the *Urinal*, though 'tis as like to diſcover the Colour of a Sick-mans Cloaths as his Infirmities; yet a thouſand to one but with diſcreet handling, you may *ſhake it* into the *Scurvey*, the *Pox*, or the *Conſumption*: Nay you may venture to tell what *Trade* your Patient is of, by his Working-days Water, and if you ſee his Sundays-Water, what *Religion* he is of: But if you proceed by the *Scheme*, there is nothing ſo probable as to ſay, He is *Bewitcht*, under an *Ill-Tongue*: That he has a *Take* upon him, or is *Planet-ſtruck*, and the Lord of the *Seventh* ſhews you to be the only Doctor in the World that can help him: Onely here beware that you never pronounce a Common-Council-man *with-child*, or a Conſtable ſick of the *Mother*; and in other Caſes, if your Judgment chance not to hit the Nail on the head, 'tis but having recourſe to neceſſary Prudence, called by the Superſtitious, the Art *of Lying*, As to tell um their *Stomack* is faln out of the place, but you doubt not but to fetch it up again: That they have Straws in their Lungs, as big as Beams, and their *Livers* are waſted with *Venery* and *Drinking*. Then as for *Therapeuticks*, if your Medicines be Galenical, though never ſo *Common*, diſguiſe them with ſtrange names; Call *Sena* a *Specifick*, *Mithridate* an *Elixir*, *Extractum Rudii* an *Arcanum*, and add a *Noſtrum* to *Album Græcum*. But if you would rather betake your ſelf to Chymical Devices, and want Nonſenſe to cant their Vertues; there are Phamphlets enough abroad to furniſh you. The Tincture of the *Suns Beard*; the Powder of the *Moons-horns*: or a Quinteſſencc extracted from the Souls of the *Heathen Gods*; will go off rarely for an Univerſal Medicine; and bub-

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ble the Simple out of their *Money* firſt, and their *Lives* afterwards.

But to deal ingenouſly, I will teach you a far more *ready* and curious way, both of Finding out and Curing all Diſeaſes, than has yet been diſcovered; which is thus: Take two large Sheets of Paper, on the one write down (or get the Book-learn'd Scribe that writes your Bills, to do it for you) the Names of all ordinary *Diſtempers*; on the other all celebrated *Medicines*; whether Catharticks, Diureticks, Diaphoreticks, Emeticks, Then when any Patient comes or ſends, and you have heard the ſtory; *retire* a while, telling them a True Phyſician muſt firſt *Study* and then *Preſcribe*: In the mean time, by your ſelf, on the Roll of Infirmities, fling a *Dye*, and as many as the Chance is, ſo many Diſeaſes, you may aſſure them the party has; but principally *that* whereon the Dye falls: Then do the ſame on the Paper of *Remedies*, and Preſcrib or Adminiſter *that* which the Dye lights on, to be taken ſo *many times* as there are Spots on the Chance. And if the Sick be Pain'd in the *Head*, you may eaſily diſcourſe them into a perſwaſion that the Diſeaſe (or at leaſt the *Cauſe*) is in their *Hand* or *Toe*: By which *ſafe* and ingenious courſe, you ſhall honeſtly refer it to *Fortune*; to diſcover both the Diſeaſe and Medicine; whereas others through a *conceited* Knowledge, or unhappy *Ignorance*, render themſelves more than *acceſſary* to the Death of many.

There are ſeveral other Directions fit to acquaint you with, which we ſhall reſerve for the *ſecond* part of this moſt uſeful *Directory*. In the mean time (as your *Predeſſors* have done before you) practice theſe and give thanks

MVSEVM BRITANNICVM

To your Old Friend

Miſo-Agyrtes.

FINIS.

CVIVS SAL
ERVDITIONIS DIGESTIONE DECENTI
TVM SAPIDVM PALATOQVE APTISSIMVM
EVASIT VT ET AD INSTAR
AVRI IGNE PROBATI LLIBATVM PERSTITERIT
IS MERITO E FECE POPVLI AD CVLMEN HONORIS
EVEHITVR
DOCTORISQVE TIARA DECORATVR
IS VERO EST
VIR JVVENIS
NOBILISSIMVS ERVDITISSIMVS
ACCVRATISSIMVS
DN. JOH. HVLDRICVS HANHARDVS
HELVETIO-VITODVRANVS
ACCIPIENS E MANV
VIRI AMPLISSIMI EXCELLENTISSIMI
D. D. JACOBI ROTHII
ANAT. ET BOTAN. PROFESS.
MERITISSIMI
MEDICORUM DECVRIONIS SPECTABILIS
LAVRVM APOLLINEAM
OB STVDIVM SINGVLARE
ITINERA LITERARIA SVMME PROMERITAM
SOLENNITER
IN RAVRACORVM PARNASSO
D. VII. JVLII ANN. M DC LXXXV.
BENE PRECANTIBVS
VIRTVTVM ET ERVDITIONIS
ÆSTIMATORIBVS.

BASILEÆ
TYPIS REGIIS.